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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

United Nations common system

Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2007

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

Summary

The present statement, submitted pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, details the administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission on the common system, in particular their implications for the proposed programme budget of the United Nations and the proposed budgets of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2008-2009. The recommendations and decisions of the Commission having an effect on the proposed programme budget and the proposed budgets for the Tribunals for the biennium 2008-2009 will be reflected in the recosting of the corresponding proposed budget estimates prior to determination of the appropriations to be adopted by the General Assembly in December 2007.

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I. Introduction

1. The annual report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2007[1] contains specific decisions and recommendations with financial implications for the proposed programme budget and the proposed budgets of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2008-2009 related to: (a) conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories: base/floor salary scale;[2] and (b) conditions of service of the General Service and other locally recruited categories: survey of best prevailing conditions of employment in London.[3] The report also contains decisions and recommendations involving financial implications for the United Nations system organizations which, however, would have no financial implications for the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009.

II. Conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories

A. Base/floor salary scale

2. The General Assembly, in section I.H of its resolution 44/198, established a floor net salary scale for staff in the Professional and higher categories by reference to the corresponding net salary levels of officials in comparable positions serving in the base city of the comparator civil service (the federal civil service of the United States of America).

3. The cumulative movement of the United States federal civil service net salaries in Washington, D.C., the current comparator, increased by 1.97 per cent as from 1 January 2007. As a result, the comparator's reference salary (GS-13/GS-14 salary levels) was 1.97 per cent higher than the net salary of a P-4/VI in the current United Nations base/floor salary scale. In accordance with the approved procedures and past practices, this would call for an upward adjustment of 1.97 per cent in the common system salary scale for staff in the Professional and higher categories, with effect from 1 January 2008. The increase in the base/floor salary scale would be implemented through the standard method of consolidating post adjustment multiplier points on a no-loss/no-gain basis.

4. The annual financial implications resulting from the above-mentioned adjustment of the base/floor salary scale for the United Nations and other participating organizations of the common system have been calculated by the Commission to be $348,700 broken down as follows:

(a) For duty stations with low post adjustment that would otherwise fall below the level of the new base/floor: none;

(b) In respect of the scale of separation payments: $348,700.

5. The financial implications of the above recommendation for the proposed programme budget of the United Nations and the proposed budgets for the

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 30* (A/62/30).
[2] Ibid., paras. 26-30.
[3] Ibid., para. 49.

International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2008-2009 have been estimated at $307,700, $21,400 and $35,600 respectively.

III. Conditions of service of the General Service and other locally recruited categories: survey of best prevailing conditions of employment in London

6. As per article 12, paragraph 1, of its statute, the Commission conducted a survey of best prevailing conditions of employment for the General Service category of staff in London with a reference month of November 2006. The Commission provided the recommended salary scale, and in addition, recommended revised rates for dependency allowances, determined on the basis of tax abatements, legislative payments and the surveyed employer-specific payments. The total annual financial implications of that decision for other participating organizations of the common system have been estimated at $137,000. There are no financial implications for the United Nations.

IV. Conclusions and recommendations

7. **The financial implications for the proposed programme budget and the proposed budgets of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2008-2009 resulting from decisions and recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission are estimated at $307,700, $21,400 and $35,600 respectively, with regard to separation payments of staff in the Professional and higher categories.**

8. **These requirements will be reflected in the recosting of the corresponding proposed budget estimates for the biennium 2008-2009 prior to determination of the appropriations to be adopted by the General Assembly in December 2007.**